

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Egbert Classen
Application Number: Unassigned
Filing Date: Concurrently Herewith
Group Art Unit:
Examiner:
Title: DOMESTIC MACHINE COMPRISING A SYSTEM FOR
FEEDING A CLEANING PRODUCT INTO THE
CLEANING LIQUID

Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.98, I am submitting a completed
"INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT" (*Form*
PTO/SB/08A) with patents and/or publications as delineated therein attached.

EP 1 063 340 discloses that the process involves introducing a gas current into the liquid with the help of a capillary (15) and a gas pump (14). The stream has a bubble forming frequency which alters across a preset range. Surface tension values are deduced during different bubble forming frequencies as a criterion for a sufficient dispensing of detergent.

EP 0 760 472 discloses that to measure the surface tension of a liquid substance, a gas flow is introduced into the liquid and, during bubbling, the timings are taken from the time of gas feed for the first sign of the bubble pressure and/or the gas vol. flow time. The surface tension is taken from the max. value of the vol. flow and/or the min. value of the first effect of the pressure of this flow after the injection time. Or the surface tension is taken from the max. value of the reading of the first pressure effect after the injection time or from the difference between the max. and min. values of the vol. flow time and/or

the first pressure effect after this time. Also claimed is an appts. with a measurement cell (1), with a measurement jet (2), directly in the liquid being measured or in a bypass. The measurement cell (1) is linked to a container (11) through a pump (10).

DE 199 59 310 discloses that the washing, cleaning or disinfection process is improved, whereby the materials brought into the treatment medium, by the articles to be washed, cleaned or disinfected are measured.

WO 97/09480 discloses that a metering device for metering preferably liquid detergent from a container into a mixing chamber, especially the detergent container of a washing machine, in which the metering device contains, in a liquid-proof housing insertable into a washing bath, the container, a metering device for the container, a sensor device to determine the concentration of detergent in the washing bath, a control device downstream of the sensor for the detergent concentration and a power supply device.

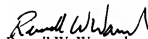
DE 93 16 754 discloses a metering device for metering cleaning water into a dishwasher having a control device for continuous monitoring of the pH value in the cleaning water, a device 14, 15 for inputting a desired pH value and a control logic 13 for controlling the dosing.

WO 96/14012 indicates that according to the invention, the detergent or cleaner is mixed with water and this mixture is fed into a trade washing machine or dish washer. Thus, the detergent or cleaner is loaded continuously or in portions onto a weighing scale and from there supplied to a mixing vessel once a predetermined weight has been reached. At the same time water is allowed to flow into the mixing vessel, where a ratio of at most 5 kg per minute detergent or cleaner to 8 l water per minute is maintained. With this cost effective metering process, detergent or cleaner can be metered precisely in the standard amounts for commercial laundering or washing operations and fed in without any problem.

If no translation of pertinent portions of any foreign language patents or publications mentioned within the "INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT" is included with the aforementioned copies of those applications, patents and/or publications, it is because no existing translation is readily available to the Applicant. As per the Notice in 1273 OG 55 (August 5, 2003) no copies of any above-

mentioned US patents and US patent application publications are submitted for this application which was filed after June 30, 2003.

Respectfully submitted


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April 11, 2006

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PTO/SB/08A (08-03)

Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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Substitute for form 1449/PTO

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 1

of 2

Complete if Known

Application Number	Unassigned
Filing Date	Herewith
First Named Inventor	Egbert Classen
Art Unit	
Examiner Name	
Attorney Docket Number	2003P01494WOLUS

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

[illegible]

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

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Examiner Initials*	Cite No.	Foreign Patent Document Country Code*, Number*, Kind Code* (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	
/N.B./		EP 1 063 340	12-27-2000	Walter Dietz et al		
/N.B./		EP 0 760 472	03-05-1997	Axel Boettger, Dr. et al		
/N.B./		GB 2 052 251	01-28-1981	Ulrich Buettner et al		✓
/N.B./		DE 199 59 310	06-21-2001	Stefan Kuepper, Dr. et al		
/N.B./		WO 97/09480	03-13-1997	Roland Schuhwerk		
/N.B./		DE 93 16 754	01-13-1994	Klaus Heckmeier		

Examiner Signature	/Naomi Birbach/
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Date
Considered

11/17/2008

***EXAMINER.** Include if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Initial date copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the year of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is a file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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ALL REFERENCES CONSIDERED EXCEPT WHERE LINED THROUGH. /N.B./

IAF20 Rec'd PCIPD 11 APR 2006

TO/SE 99A (08-03)

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Examiner Name	
Attorney Docket Number	2003P01494WOUS

Sheet	2	of	2
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U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No.†	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	†
		Country Code*+Number*+Kind Code* (if known)				
/N.B./		WO 96/14012	05-17-1996	Guenther Amberg et al		
/N.B./		International Search Report PCT/EP2004/052530				✓

Examiner Signature	/Naomi Birbach/
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Date Considered	11/17/2008
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